

FIESTA OLMECA

May 22, 2004





**MONUMENT 1,
RANCHO LA COBATA** (Cerro El Vigía, Veracruz)
3.4 m (11.15 ft) tall. Santiago Tuxtla square, Veracruz.

Although this is the largest colossal head found to date, it is different from the others in that the headdress is stylized, the eyes are closed and it has a peculiar mouth. These features make it lose the portrait-like quality of the other heads. The headdress, without design, is formed by a smooth horizontal band surrounding the upper part. The lack of realism is observed also in the flattened nose, which lacks nostrils.

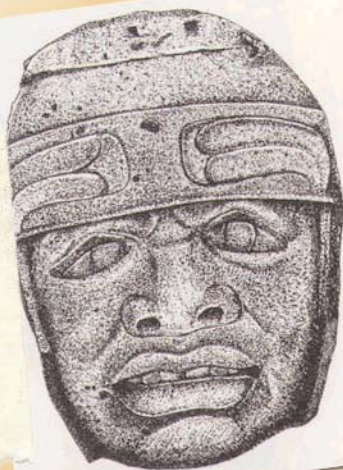
Many believe the head represents a deceased person.



**HEAD 9,
SAN LORENZO**
1.65 m (5.41 ft) tall.
Jalapa Museum
of Anthropology.



**HEAD 4,
SAN LORENZO**
(Monument 4),
1.78 m (5.84 ft) tall.
Jalapa Museum
of Anthropology.



**HEAD 8,
SAN LORENZO**
(Monument 61),
2.2 m (7.22 ft) tall.
Jalapa Museum
of Anthropology.

May 11, 2004

The Olmeca Head has finally reached the United States! As I write this the Head is traveling on an APF freight liner to West Valley City. The Head is scheduled to leave Laredo, Texas sometime tonight and reach Dallas tomorrow morning. It's next stop is Albuquerque, New Mexico on May 12. The Head is expected to enter Utah at the Green River Port of Entry sometime on Thursday, May 13.

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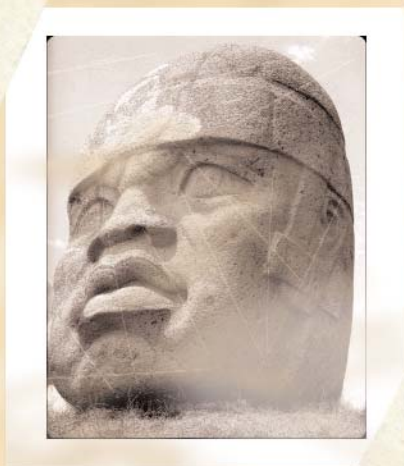
To organize my thoughts more effectively I am going to reference important material contained in this journal on this first page.

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Facts about Colossal Olmec Head No. 8

Head 8 Replica

- 7.5 to 8 tons
- 7 to 7.5 feet tall
- 5.5 feet wide
- Head will sit on a 15 inch tall, 7 foot square pedestal
- Sculpted from ~~Stone~~ basalt
- Replica created by Ignacio Pérez Solano the same artist who created the Olmec head replica that is at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C.
- Olmec Head will be transported by truck from Veracruz, Mexico to West Valley City, Utah



Head 8 Original

- Colossal Olmec Head No. 8 dates to 1,200 to 900 B.C.
- Colossal Olmec Head No. 8 was originally found at the San Lorenzo Tenochtitlan archeological site in the state of Veracruz, Mexico
- Head No. 8 was discovered in the late 1960s by Yale Archeologist Michael Coe, who utilized magnetometer technology to detect and map volcanic rock under the surface of the dense Mexican jungle
- Sculpted from basalt quarried 80 kilometers away from San Lorenzo



NEWS RELEASE

Utah Cultural Celebration Center
1355 West 3100 South • West Valley City, UT 84119
Mobile phone: (801) 232-6668 • Fax: (801) 965-5111
E-mail: shyde@ci.west-valley.ut.us

Date: May 13, 2004

Contact: Steve Hyde, Marketing Director, UCCC, (801) 965-5105

Utah Cultural Celebration Center to Receive Colossal Replica of Ancient Olmec Head

WEST VALLEY CITY, Utah - The Utah Cultural Celebration Center, 1355 West 3100 South, is getting ready to welcome a new face to the crowd - a really big face. On Saturday, May 22, 6:00 p.m., a giant replica of an ancient Olmec Head will be unveiled to the public at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, where it will be permanently on display.

The 7 1/2 ton, 7-foot-tall head is only the third head gifted to an organization in the United States - the other Olmec heads are at the Smithsonian Institution Museum in Washington D.C., and the Chicago Field Museum in Chicago, Illinois. Only 14 Olmec head reproductions have been given as gifts worldwide.

The head coming to Celebration Center is a replica of Olmec Head No. Eight, recreated by artist Ignacio Perez Solano, and is a gift from the Gov. Miguel Alemán Velasco of the Mexican State of Veracruz where the original head was discovered. A VIP reception will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 22, at the Celebration Center to thank Gov. Alemán and other Veracruz representatives for their generous gift.

"We are honored to accept such a wonderful gift from the people of Veracruz," said West Valley City Mayor Dennis Nordfelt. "This will provide us and future generations a permanent link to Mexico and its culture."

Nordfelt said the gift was in the works a year ago when representatives of the U.S./Mexican chamber of commerce visited West Valley City. "We took them on a tour of our new cultural celebration center," Nordfelt said, "and we mentioned how we wanted to include some things from various cultures."

Word soon came back to Nordfelt from the governor of Veracruz that they wanted to donate a 7 1/2 ton basalt head.

"The Olmec heads represent the mother of cultures in Mesoamerica," says Adan Carrillo, native of Veracruz, Mexico, and representative of the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. "The people of Mexico, and especially of Veracruz have a great respect for and interest in the history and traditions of the Olmecas."

Following the unveiling, Fiesta Olmeca will celebrate the head's arrival. Complete with a mariachi band, food, piñatas, dancing, and fireworks, the celebration will go until dark.

#

UTAH CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER
EVENT SCHEDULE

Fiesta Olmeca Schedule

22, 2004

TOP BRUNCH

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Place: Great Hall; Crossroads; Gallery
Events: Brunch
Gift Exchange
Speeches
Entertainment*
Other: MC-Spence Kennard - Ross has confirmed Special Arrangements

*Entertainment:

Accordianist - Ross has confirmed Jane Todd
Pianist - Ross has confirmed Ari Carrillo

Mariachi Band - Mike has confirmed Mariachi Sol de Calisco
(11 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

PUBLIC CELEBRATION

Time: 6:00 p.m. - Midnight

Main Ceremony: 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Place: Plaza; Festival Grounds; Great Hall
Events: Unveiling
Exchange of Public Gifts; Flags
Speeches

Band kick off and national anthems
Hispanic Choir

Entertainment*
Other: MC - Mike and Adan have confirmed Elizabeth Amores and David

Kifuri (of Radio Unica)

Free food to
the first
2,500 people!!

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UTAH CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER EVENT SCHEDULE

Fiesta Olmeca Schedule

Special Arrangements

*Entertainment (7 p.m. - 10 p.m. ~30 minutes each group)

Veracruz Group - Adan is working with VC Government

Clog America - Mike has confirmed

American Indian Dancers - Emerson Bill's Family: a group of drummers, singers, and dancers (Harry is our connection)

Spanish Dancers - Latin Dance Heritage (Victor Carrillo) 8 or 12 persons; requested 45 minutes (different Mexican states, Cuban, Bolivian)- Mike has confirmed

2 or 3 Mexican bands have committed

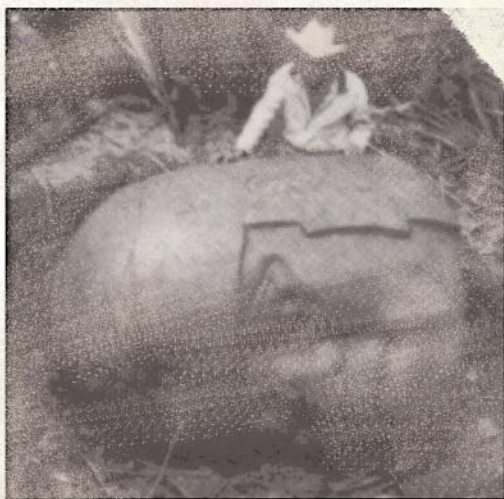
Mariachi Band

Headliner (10 p.m. - midnight)

A Headliner Group - Tamara has confirmed Mambo Jumbo; Craig of Performance Audio will run the sound system

Utah Cultural Celebration Center • 1355 W

remarkable seminal civil
materialized over the
Olmec art is the most
seemingly enigmatic
hemisphere.



CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER

South, West Valley City, Utah 84119 (801) 965-5100

ÚNETE A LA CELEBRACIÓN

El Utah Cultural Celebration Center es la destinación principal del estado para las artes y eventos culturales. El Celebration Center es el único complejo local enfocado al arte y a la cultura en el valle de Salt Lake, y es quizás el único lugar en su clase ofreciendo esta combinación de espacios y objetivos.

El Utah Cultural Celebration Center está diseñado para fortalecer un sentimiento de unidad entre la diversa población del Wasatch Front destacando la riqueza cultural y la creatividad. También provee un foro para celebrar el talento de nuestra comunidad en música, baile, actuación y artes visuales. El Celebration Center proporciona un lugar donde familia y amigos se reúnen y donde las artes culturales son nutridas, fomentadas y celebradas.

Para mayor información acerca del Utah Cultural Celebration Center, por favor llamar al (801) 965-5100 o visítenos en www.CulturalCelebrationCenter.Org

*This information
looks important.
Better find someone
to translate this.*





Bailar Folclórico. La Gran Inauguración del Utah Cultural Celebration Center

FIESTA OLMECA, MAYO 22

La ciudad de West Valley será anfitriona del visitante mas grande de México que el estado de Utah haya visto alguna vez, y esta preparando una fiesta en Mayo 22 del 2004, digna de la altura, el ancho y peso de su huésped.

La FIESTA OLMECA en el Utah Cultural Celebration Center celebrará la llegada de una reproducción de 5 toneladas y media de la Colosal Cabeza Olmeca número 8, originalmente encontrada cerca de la zona arqueológica de San Lorenzo en Veracruz, México. La fiesta será de 6:00 p.m. hasta la medianoche y las actividades incluirán la exhibición de la Cabeza Olmeca, entretenimiento en vivo, una fiesta para el público, piñatas para los niños, una demostración de fuegos artificiales y un baile.

La cabeza de 7 pies de alto ha sido donada al Utah Cultural Celebration Center por el Gobernador del estado de Veracruz. Es una de las 3 que a la fecha se encuentran en los Estados Unidos – la primera cabeza está en el Smithsonian Institute en Washington, D.C. y la segunda está en el Chicago Field Museum en Chicago, Illinois.

Para mayor información por favor llamar al (801) 965-5100 o visitenos en www.CulturalCelebrationCenter.Org



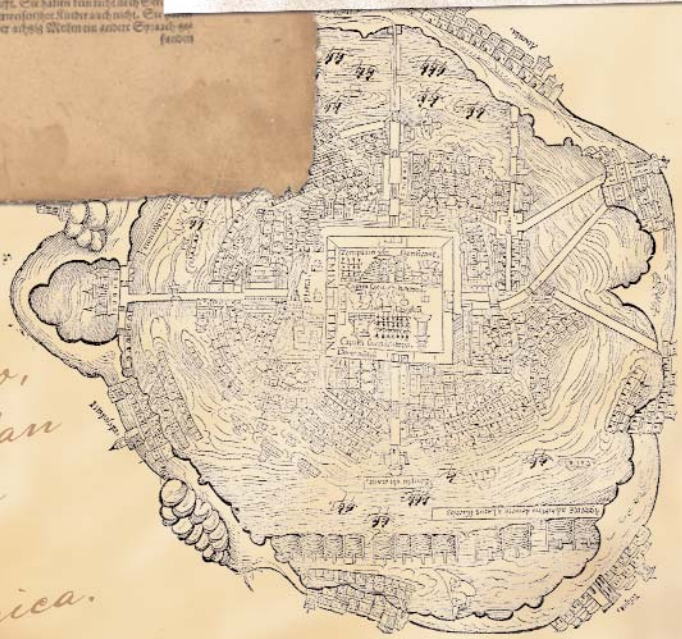
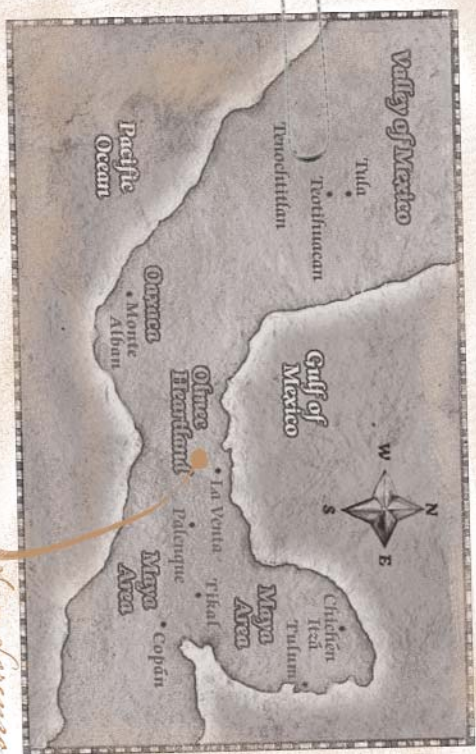
Colossal Cabeza Olmeca número 8, encontrada en San Lorenzo, México

Von der Neuen Insel.
Der Stadt Tenochtitlan in der Neuen Insel gelegen.
Figuren.



Dies ist die Insel Tenochtitlan, 1497, als der Spanier Cortez sie entdeckte, und von da an bis zum Jahr 1519, als Cortez sie eroberte. Die Insel ist in vier Teile geteilt, die durch Canäle voneinander getrennt sind. Der größte Teil der Insel ist mit Tempeln und Palästen besetzt. Die Insel ist von Wasser umgeben, und die Einwohner haben sich darauf eingerichtet, auf dem Wasser zu leben. Die Insel ist in vier Teile geteilt, die durch Canäle voneinander getrennt sind. Der größte Teil der Insel ist mit Tempeln und Palästen besetzt. Die Insel ist von Wasser umgeben, und die Einwohner haben sich darauf eingerichtet, auf dem Wasser zu leben.

San Lorenzo



Maps of
San Lorenzo,
Tenochtitlan
and Olmeca
areas in
Mesoamerica.



UTAH CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER BACKGROUND INFORMATION

San Lorenzo, Tenochtitlan

Olmec society was in full flower by 1,200 B.C., at a place known as San Lorenzo, on a fertile plain overlooking the Chiquito River. The city may have had a population of between 10,500 to 17,500 people. San Lorenzo was built on a natural plateau that was modified by building large artificial ridges. It is estimated that humans carried 67,000 cubic meters of soil in baskets to create this artificial platform.

Certain hallmarks of Olmec architectural planning are visible at San Lorenzo. These include placing a single large pyramidal structure at the end of a long rectangular court that is defined by two long parallel mounds. In fact, the Olmec people of San Lorenzo were laying the foundation for the organization of sacred space that would characterize Mesoamerican culture until the arrival of the Spanish.

San Lorenzo shows clear evidence of class structure with more elaborate housing for the upper classes and simpler accommodations for the middle class and the poor. There were also workshops for producing artifacts, and irrigation and drainage systems.

More than 70 monumental sculptures are known from the site. The most well-known of these artifacts are 17 colossal stone heads, presumed to have been carved between 1200 B.C. and 900 B.C. Cut from blocks of volcanic basalt, the heads, which range in height from 5 ft. to 11 ft. and weigh as much as 20 tons, are generally thought to be portraits of rulers. Most of these stone heads were found buried in a long line across the great mound of the site.

Archaeologists still have not determined how the Olmec transported the basalt from quarries to various settlements as far as 80 miles away - and, in San Lorenzo, hoisted it to the top of a plateau some 150 ft. high.

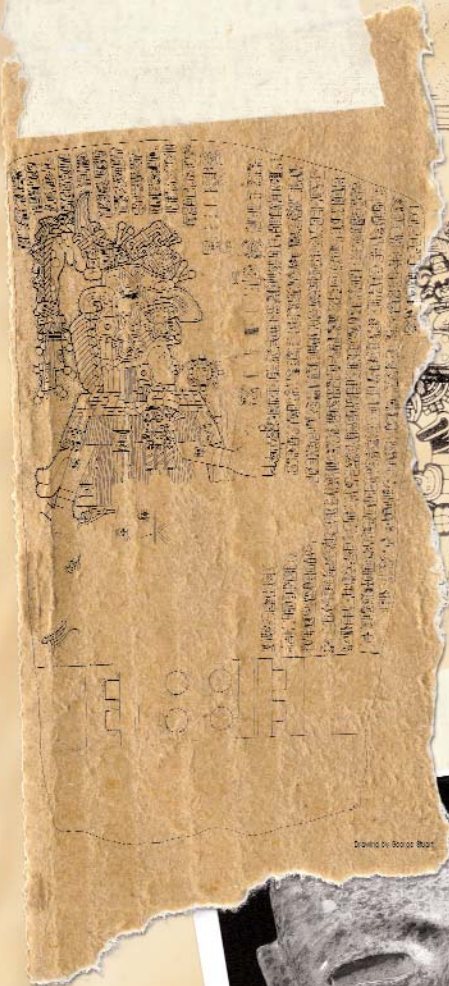
Art historians and archaeologists agree that the Olmec produced the earliest sophisticated art in Mesoamerica and that their distinctive style provided a model for the Maya, Aztec and other later civilizations in the region. Small-scale Olmec objects made prior to 900 B.C. tend to be ceramic, whereas later pieces were often fashioned of jade and serpentine, rare materials that required great skill to carve.

Recurring images in Olmec art - dragons, birds, dwarfs, hunchbacks and, most important, the "were-jaguar" (part human, part jaguar) - indicate a belief in the supernatural and in shamanism. Olmec-style human figures typically have squarish facial features with full lips, a flat nose, pronounced jowls and slanting eyes reminiscent (at least to early travelers in the region) of African or Chinese peoples.

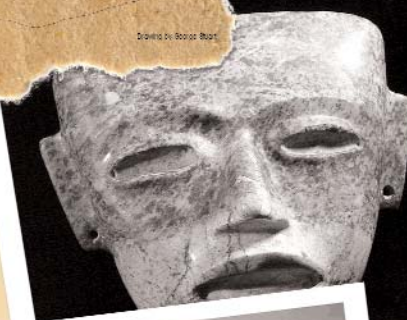
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Drawing by Bogdan Bortol



*Samples of
Olmec writing
and art.*



UTAH CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Olmec History and Culture

The Olmecs were the first elaborate, pre-Columbian culture of Mesoamerica, and scholars believe that the Olmec set many of the fundamental patterns displayed by later Indian cultures of Mexico and Central America.

The Olmec civilization began about 1,500 B.C. Scholars traditionally considered the Olmec the "mother culture," or first major civilization, of Mesoamerica; however, today most believe that the Olmec were one of many societies that were developing and sharing ideas at the time. Olmec art, religion, and other accomplishments had an important influence on other cultures that developed later throughout a wide area of Mesoamerica.

The Olmec people lived in hot, humid lowlands along the southern Gulf Coast of Mexico in what are now the states of Veracruz and Tabasco. Olmec chiefs controlled some of the richest agricultural lands in Mesoamerica, which had the capacity to provide food for very dense populations.

The Olmec people built large centers in the jungle where political and religious ceremonies were held. In these centers, such as San Lorenzo, La Venta, and Tres Zapotes, the Olmec created some of the first pyramids in the Americas as well as massive stone sculptures. Among the most notable monuments are gigantic heads carved from basalt, weighing 25 metric tons or more, that depict Olmec rulers.

The Olmecs developed a wide trading network, and between 1,100 and 800 B.C. Their cultural influence spread northwestward to the Valley of Mexico and southeastward to parts of Central America. It is clear that later Mesoamerican native religions and iconography, from all parts of the area, can be traced back to Olmec beginnings. Besides monumental architecture and sculpture, Olmec art is expressed in small jade carvings, pottery, and other media.

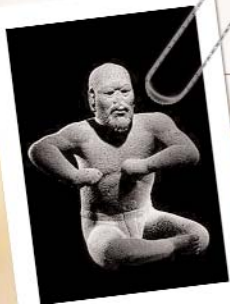
The Olmec and other societies of the period developed a calendar, an astronomical system, and a primitive writing system used by later Mesoamericans to produce more sophisticated forms. Many Mesoamerican religious concepts and ideas about rulership can also be traced to the Olmec and their contemporaries. The Olmec are also attributed with popularizing the Mesoamerican ball game, which was played by Mesoamerican cultures until the arrival of the Spanish conquistadors.

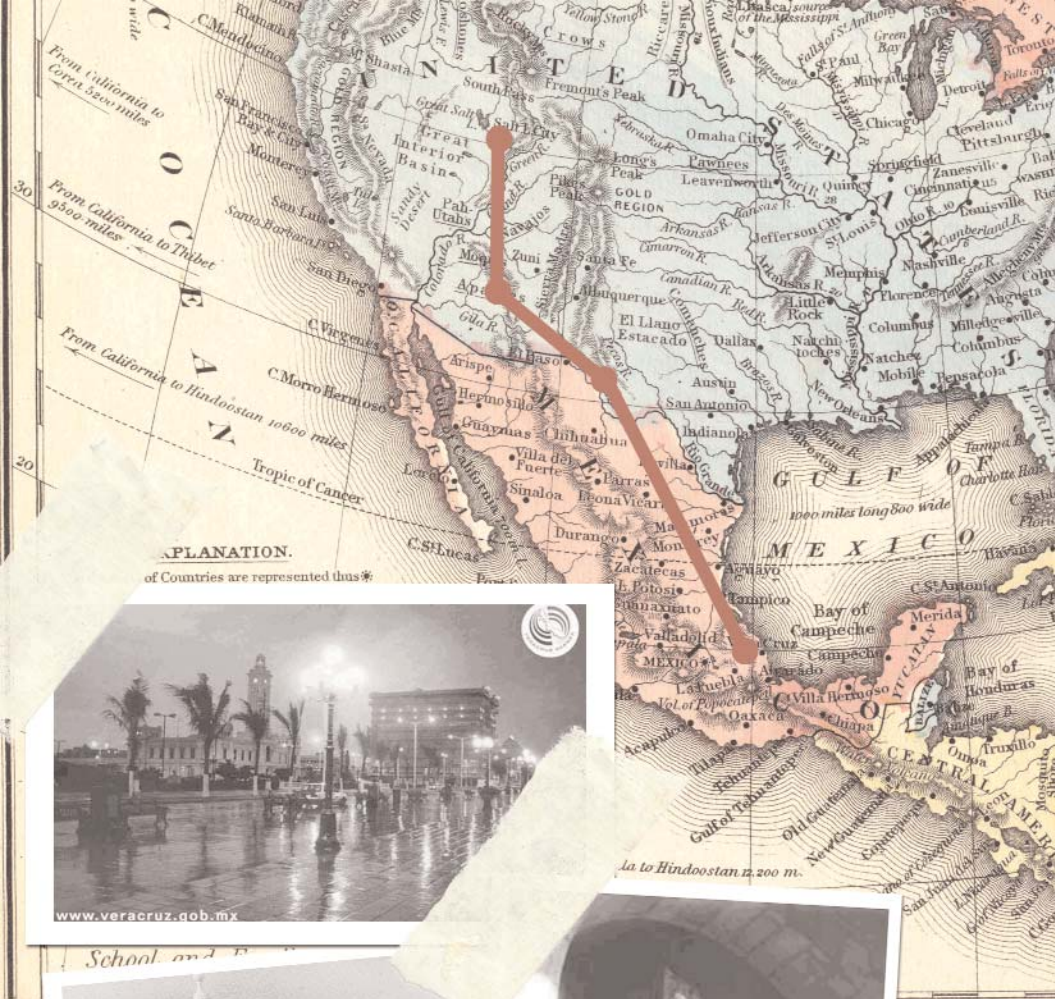
Olmec stylistic influence disappeared after about 800 B.C. Not all of the Olmec sites were abandoned, but Olmec culture gradually changed, and the region ceased to be the cultural leader of Mesoamerica.

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Veraacruz
Mexico



UTAH CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Veracruz, Mexico

Area 71,735 sq km (27,697 sq mi) • Population (2000) 6,901,111

Veracruz state in eastern Mexico is located between the coast of the Gulf of Mexico and the Sierra Madre Oriental mountain range, and bordered inland by the states of Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosí, Hidalgo, Puebla, Oaxaca, and Tabasco.

The topography and climate of Veracruz range from a hotter, flat coastal region in the east to a cooler area of high plains and rugged mountains toward the western boundaries. The state includes two major peaks, both of which are extinct volcanoes: Pico de Orizaba (Citlaltépetl), the highest peak in Mexico at 5,610 m (18,406 ft); and the Cofre de Perote at 4,282 m (14,049 ft). A large river, the Pánuco, which originates in the Valley of Mexico, flows eastward across Veracruz and enters the Gulf of Mexico at Tampico.

Mexico's main port city, Veracruz, is located in the state. The city is linked by highway and railroad to the country's capital, Mexico City. Veracruz is a leading agricultural state, producing maize, beans, sugarcane, coffee, rice, honey, fruit, cattle, and pork. The state also supports a fishing industry and is the location of the important Poza Rica petroleum fields and refinery.

Besides Veracruz, other important cities in the state include Jalapa Enriquez, the state capital and location of Veracruz University; Coatzacoalcos; Tuxpan de Rodríguez Cano; Minatitlán; Orizaba; and Poza Rica.

About 10 percent of the state's population speaks indigenous languages, somewhat higher than the national average of 5 to 7 percent. These languages include Nahuatl, Totonaco, Huasteco, Popoluca, and Otomí. The Huastec, Totonac, and Olmec peoples lived in what is now Veracruz state before the arrival of the Spanish in 1519, and the remnants of their settlements are preserved in more than 1,200 archaeological sites.

Veracruz is especially important in Mexican history, having been the initial base of operations for the conquest of central Mexico by the Spanish explorer Hernán Cortés. It became a state in the republic of Mexico after independence from Spain in 1824.

Because of its large population, the state plays an important role in Mexican national politics. Two of the country's presidents since 1946 - Miguel Alemán Valdés and Adolfo Ruiz Cortines - came from Veracruz.

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that bears non-calendric signs. In the site of Cerro de las Mesas (also in Veracruz), highly eroded monuments also bear Long Count dates in La Mojarra style, but from the early Classic period at around 450 A.D., as well as a large stone version of the Tuxtla Statuette devoid of any text.

UTAH CULTURAL CELEBRATION CENTER BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Miguel Alemán Velazco, Governor of Veracruz, Mexico

Miguel Alemán Velazco was born on March 18, 1932 in the Mexican City and seaport of Veracruz. He is the son of Beatriz Velazco Mendoza and Miguel Alemán Valdés, who was Governor of the State of Veracruz, Secretary of Interior and at 41 years old, was elected the first civil president of post-revolutionary Mexico.

Politician, entrepreneur and journalist, Alemán is well known all over the country by people of all social backgrounds. Currently he is the 44th governor of the State of Veracruz. He took office on December 1, 1998.

Previously, he served as Senator, Presidential Advisor for Television and Radio Affairs, and ambassador for Special Affairs. He is member of the Institutional Revolutionary Party since 1953, where he has been in charge of several assignments: Delegate, President's aid at the National Executive Committee (CEN); member of the Consultory Board of the Politic, Economic and Social Studies Institute (IEPES); Chairman of Public Relations of the CEN; and Secretary of Finance. He is also member of the National Political Board. He was head of the Colosio Foundation, A.C.

He is known as a journalist, who wrote in Siempre and Visión Latinoamericana. He was anchorman on radio and TV special news broadcasts, and he was the narrator of the arrival of the first man to the Moon.

As an entrepreneur he founded and was head of the first editions of the International Cinema Festival carried out in Acapulco. He was a coordinator at Telesistema Mexicano S.A., founding-director of the news network of Telesistema Mexicano S.A.; first vice-president of the National Chamber of Radio Industry; member of the Directive Board of the Televisa's Cultural Foundation.

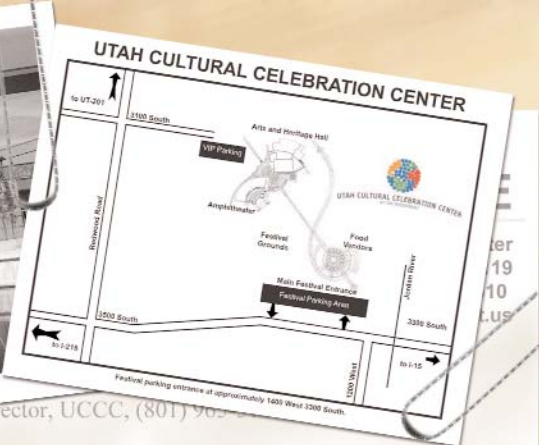
He also was vice-president and CEO of Televisa S.A. de C.V. until May 1, 1999 and President of OTI (Organización de Televisión Iberoamericana) until March 2000. He was member of the Boards of UNICEF Mexico and Coca-Cola International, also of the Colegio de la Frontera Norte. He is Chief of Sponsors of the San Carlos' Museum A.C. and of the Foundation Miguel Alemán. He is a member of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

He received honor decorations from the Spain and France and received the Doctorate Honoris Causa by the Universidad de Las Américas in Puebla, Mexico, and by the Social Communication School Cásper Libero of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

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Utah Cultural Celebration Center Brings Many Cultures Together in West Valley City

WEST VALLEY CITY, Utah — The Utah Cultural Celebration Center at the Riverfront, West Valley City's newest facility, celebrated its grand opening in 2003. This \$12 million facility features a 1,200 seat outdoor amphitheater, a 74,000 square foot Arts and Heritage Hall Community Center, and 28 acres of open field festival areas.

With 250 fixed seats, and manicured lawn seating for 1,200, the outdoor amphitheater at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center can host a variety of cultural entertainment events. Past performances have included Polynesian festivals, multi-cultural concerts, and the West Valley City Arts Council production of "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." Already slated for Summer 2004 are screenings for the Gloria Film Festival, and the West Valley City Arts Council production of "Fiddler on the Roof."

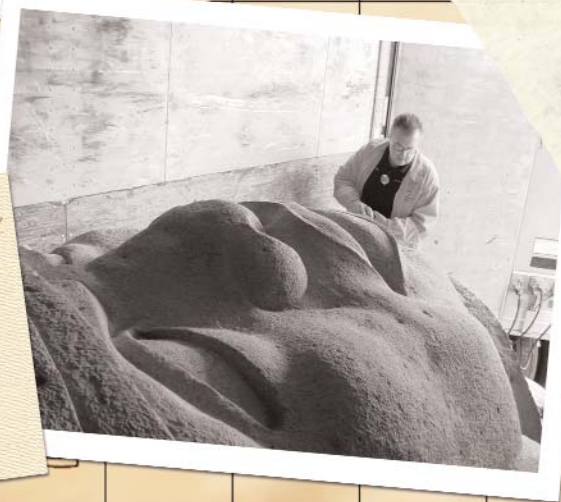
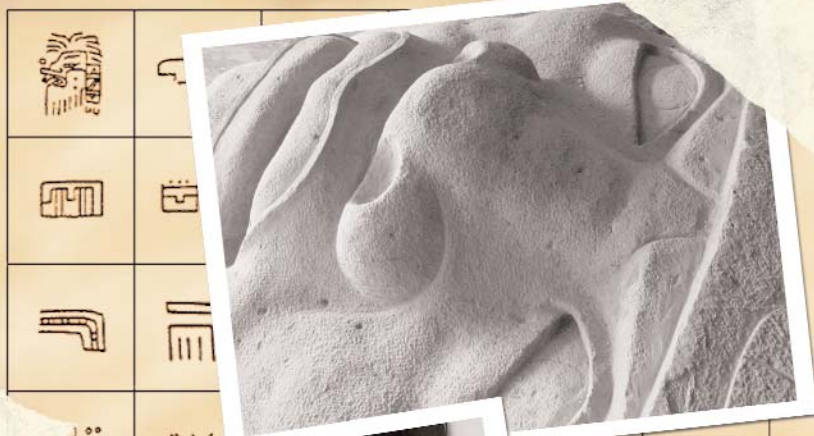
The expansive Arts and Heritage Hall Cultural Center is a multipurpose facility, and can host a variety of events. Five classrooms, a great hall, an outdoor patio, and a commercial grade kitchen make the Utah Cultural Celebration Center ideal for events such as weddings, festivals, classes, banquets, and other special events.

In addition to classrooms and banquet facilities, the newly opened art gallery has added to the diversity of cultural events hosted at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. In Winter 2004, the Smithsonian traveling exhibit "Key Ingredients: America by Food" visited the art gallery. Activities that were hosted in conjunction with the exhibit included a swing dance party, a food fair, a chocolate boutique, and a variety of food-related classes.

Just outside the Arts and Heritage Hall Cultural Center are the Utah Cultural Celebration Center's festival grounds. Twenty-eight acres of open space include manicured lawns, walkways, and a "market area" ideal for food vendors. Popular outdoor events at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center have included a Scottish Festival, Polynesian Festival, Belly Dancing Festival, and British Bonfire night.

For more information about the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, including a schedule of upcoming events, call 965-5100, or visit www.culturalcelebrationcenter.org

Blumee Writing Samples



The head arrived
at the Cultural
Center on
Thursday
May 13, 2004.



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*Cultural Center
Web Site:
www.CulturalCelebrationCenter.org*

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